

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 01881 060442Z

22

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 L-03

FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 ARA-06 NSC-05 SS-15 /120 W

----- 079075

R 060351Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1905

INFO USDEUS MISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 0739

USEC BRUSSELS 0190

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 1881

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD, RP

SUBJECT: UNCTAD GROUP 77: PRESIDENT MARCOS TAKES AN INITIATIVE

REF: MANILA 1850

1. ON THE EVE OF THE FINAL SCHEDULED DAY OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING, PRESIDENT MARCOS OFFERED THE FIRST SUBSCRIPTION OF \$50 MILLION TO INITIATE THE CREATION OF A COMMON FUND FOR AN INTEGRATED COMMODITIES PROGRAM. MARCOS EVIDENTLY TOOK THIS INITIATIVE IN A MOVE TO SOLVE THE IMPASSE BETWEEN THE LATIN AMERICANS AND THE AFRICANS ON THE COMMODITIES/LOME CONVENTION ISSUE. THE OFFER WAS ANNOUNCED AT ABOUT 8:00 P.M. FEBRUARY 5 BY SECRETARY ROMULO AT HIS RECEPTION FOR THE CONFERENCE DELEGATES. OWING TO THE CROWD, HIS LIGHT VOICE AND THE LACK OF A LOUDSPEAKER, ROMULO'S ANNOUNCEMENT LOST WHATEVER IMPACT IT WAS MEANT TO HAVE, AND THE DELEGATES SUCESSFULLY RESTRAINED THEIR ENTHUSIASM.

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PAGE 02 MANILA 01881 060442Z

2. ACCORDING TO SOME OF THE OBSERVERS, THE PRESIDENTIAL

INITIATIVE INDICATES HOW SERIOUS AND DEEP THE SPLIT BETWEEN THE LATIN AMERICANS AND AFRICANS HAS BECOME. THE LATIN AMERICANS, LED BY ARGENTINA AND VENEZUELA AND SUPPORTED BY BRAZIL, ARE ARGUING THAT PREFERRED ACCESS TO DEVELOPED MARKETS SUCH AS THAT AFFORDED BY THE LOME CONVENTION IS AT VARIANCE WITH THE UNIVERSALITY INHERENT IN GSP, AND ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE WOULD LEAD TO THE CREATION OF REGIONAL OR SPECIAL ECONOMIC BLOCS. THE LATINS, IN SEEKING GENERALIZED OR UNIVERSAL ACCESS BY ALL COUNTRIES OF THE GROUP OF 77, SEEK TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ANXIETIES AND NEEDS OF THE AFRICANS BY OFFERING SUPPORT FOR COMPENSATORY MECHANISMS SUCH AS THE INTEGRATED COMMODITIES PROGRAM OF GROUP-WIDE APPLICABILITY BACKED BY A COMMON FUND.

3. SO FAR THE AFRICANS DO NOT APPEAR TAKEN WITH THE IDEA OF LEAVING THE SHELTER OF THE LOME CONVENTION IF THAT WERE THE PRICE FOR AN INTEGRATED COMMODITIES PROGRAM. IN THE CIR UMSTANCES, WHETHER PRESIDENT MARCOS' OFFER OF \$50 MILLION WILL HAVE THE DESIRED CATALYTIC EFFECT IS AT BEST DOUBTFUL. (ONE WELL-QUALIFIED OBSERVER HAS SUGGESTED THAT THIS IS WHY MARCOS FELT SAFE IN MAKING THE OFFER)M THE OPEC COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN REMAINING SILENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY -- NOTABLY IRAN, FOR EXAMPLE -- HAVE NO SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS.

SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, COMMODITIES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT GRANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Reference:** 76 MANILA 1850  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UNCTAD GROUP 77: PRESIDENT MARCOS TAKES AN INITIATIVE  
**TAGS:** EGEN, RP, UNCTAD, GROUP OF 77, (MARCOS, FERDINAND)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006